Spring is upon us. The clocks have sprung. We celebrated Easter and Passover. The Miami Heat are in the playoffs. The Miami nine are on the field. The NSU Sharks are making some noise. Washington remains intransigent. The world is tense, changing, but, in one piece. The theatre season has been entertaining. The TV lineup continues to offer interesting shows. We at the LLI are ensconced in our new digs. Our speakers continue to excel. Our new members are making significant contributions in the classroom and out. Our field trips and social outings have been well attended.

Since we at the LLI are an eclectic, engaged, interested, and thoughtful group, we can indeed say life is good. I’d like to congratulate Ciro Mazzola and wish him luck as he assumes the coordinating editor position on the LLI Newsletter. We all eagerly anticipate how he will leave his mark.

Having been a member of the MAC for several years, I’d like to share how wonderful it is to see the growth of our vibrant student body, the remodeling of our home, the continuous updating of our speaker roster with wonderful professors, and the general good vibe that pervades the institute. The MAC had several objectives at its start, and it seems clear these initiatives bore fruit. We hope to continue on this positive arc by seeking your input.

As always, I’d like to thank the members of the MAC—Jill, Joy, Lee, Moe, Dan, and Rudy—for their tireless efforts, as well as our director, Linda, for continuing to shepherd the LLI in a positive direction. Thanks as well to Drs. Cecilia Rokusek, Geriatric Education Center executive director, and Anthony J. Silvagni, dean of NSU’s College of Osteopathic Medicine, for their unwavering support. Of course, I am grateful to Dr. George Hanbury, NSU president, for without his vision and support the current growth of the LLI would not have been possible.

Spring is here. Good wishes to everyone!
WOW is really the most appropriate comment I can make about the 2012-13 LLI academic year. We currently have 195 members, a beautiful, large, newly renovated room, and a library with four of our own laptops.

Our academic year has been fantastic. We have had a lot of returning speakers as well as new lecturers who quickly felt like longtime, beloved favorites. Our social activities have been fun and well attended, including a great field trip to Costume World in Deerfield Beach. At the time of this writing, we are also gearing up for the much-anticipated annual spring brunch thanks to the efforts of Jill Cohen. We have a new newsletter editor, Ciro Mazzola, and we thank him for his hard work in continuing this great, member-generated production. A huge thank you to Rudy Amerally, who was the newsletter’s founding editor and helped turn the dream into a reality.

As always, we thank Drs. George Hanbury, Anthony J. Silvagni, and Cecilia Rokusek for their dedication and support of the continued growth and mission of the LLI. Thanks also to the Members Advisory Committee. Without you, there would not be an LLI.

I send a very personal thank you to Heike Dose for another great year. Simply said, the woman does it all.

All the best,
Linda

Note: Don’t forget to “like” us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and watch snippets of our lectures on YouTube. If you need help finding these sites online, we are here to help.

From the Desk of the DIRECTOR
By Linda E. Maurice

KEY WEST

for many years roosters ruled the roost in Key West with early serenades

then along came TV talk of a bird flu pandemic morning, noon, and night all networks alike

by trapping with snares none of the roosters were safe they flew up to the coconuts to sleep out the night hoping to miss that very last flight out

but public uproar in a city known for live and let live quickly reprieved these mobile alarm clocks from becoming roasted roosters

By Ruth Lazarus
2006

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Watch highlights of LLI classroom lectures on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/user/LLINova?feature=mhee

LLI Mission Statement
Nova Southeastern University’s Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) provides a vibrant educational environment for mature adults in South Florida. Programs promote intellectual stimulation, physical well-being, and social growth that enrich the lives of its members and the community.

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate’s, baccalaureate, master’s, educational specialist, doctorate, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University.

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.
The Légion d’honneur

Reported by Dan Smith

The Légion d’honneur is a distinction first established by Napoleon Bonaparte in May 1802. Initially intended to recognize military service, early honorees were required to have served 25 years in the French military. After WWII, it was awarded to honor the heroism of veterans and to comfort the families of soldiers who had sacrificed their lives to protect their country. Following the 1963 founding of the French Order of Merit, the Légion d’honneur was expanded to include high-level civil servants, sports champions, filmmakers, and foreign veterans who had risked their lives in combat on French soil during WWII. Three members of the Lifelong Learning Institute have been honored for their combat service in France. Ralph De Santis and Ezra Rohold have already been recognized, while David Beekman is waiting to receive his award. I sat down with Rohold to ask him a few questions about his military service.

In what U.S. military unit did you serve?
“The 4th Infantry Division.”

When did you fight on French soil?
“From December 1944 until the end of the war on May 8, 1945.”

When were you presented with the Légion d’honneur?
“On February 28, 2013, at a ceremony led by the French ambassador to the United States. A lieutenant colonel in the French Air Force presented me with the Légion d’honneur.”

What other military distinctions have you been awarded?
“For service in the military, I received the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, three Battle Stars, and the Victory Medal.”

We should all be grateful to our fellow LLI members who served honorably in the military during WWII. We appreciate the fact that they survived the conflict.

Member Profile

By Dennis Simunek

Arrie “June” McCulloch, who was born in Waco, Texas, and grew up in the Fort Worth area, received bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Texas Christian University and worked as a teacher in the Fort Worth Independent School District for 35 years.

“I came to Florida just after Hurricane Andrew swept through the state,” she said. “My husband had passed on and I was retired from my teaching position. Two of my three sons had moved to Miami to establish an office for pilot catastrophe investigations. They knew they would be in Florida for a few years and convinced me to join them.”

After settling in Florida, McCulloch taught at a private school for seven more years. When her sons were called back to Texas, they asked her to join them. “I discovered that I couldn’t go. I loved the weather, the ease of condo living, the friends I made at the Unitarian Universal Congregation, and the Lifelong Learning Institute,” she explained.

The Lifelong Learning Institute has enriched McCulloch’s life for the past 10 years. She receives intellectual stimulation through class offerings and physical fitness classes. She also benefits from daily meditation and writing her memoir.

Life is still good for McCulloch in South Florida. She takes time to visit her two sons and grandchildren in Texas. Her passion for traveling has taken her to exotic places and offered unique experiences such as ascending a mountain in Bhutan and climbing a sand dune in Morocco. She plans to visit the French Riviera in April 2013, which is where her daughter resides.

McCulloch is well-liked and esteemed by her Lifelong Learning Institute peers. Her active engagement and enthusiasm for the LLI is an encouragement to us all.
LLI Welcomes New Members

Judy Apisdorf
Bonnie Baier
Bruce Bornstein
Warren Deatherage
Anthony Dorto
Jean Dorto
Dorothy Eisengart
Marvin Eisengart
Ellen Fiedler
Janet Frank
Carol Ginsberg
Harvey Greiff
Roberta Hayman
Gloria Holler
Dorallynn Jacobs
Jeff Knee
Dorrith Leipziger
Harriet and Mel Lieberson
Raymond Lolli
Jeffry Martin
Kathryn Maloney
Ciro Mazzola
Audrey Meline
Samuel Meline
Marsha Mitchem
Robert Mitchem
Rosita Nahum
Arlene Okoshken
Daisy Patino
Steven Platt
Edward Portner
Junie Rabin
Joy Rodenberg
Margaret Royle
Ralph Rubin
Lillian Ryblicki
Lila Sapon
Linda Scherer
Celia Sherman
Stanley Silver

LLI TRIBUTE DONATIONS

Scholarship Fund
Soling Li (alumna)
Linda Maurice
(in memory of Murray Schwartz)
Stuart Slutsky

Speakers’ Fund
Roberta and Michael Angel

General Fund
Belle Brenner
Ralph DiSanto
(in honor of his son’s birthday)
Heike Dose
(in memory of Murray Schwartz)
Judith Etzion
Steven Gordon
(in memory of Peggy Liberman)
Claire Lang
(in memory of Petey Kaletta’s mother)
Susan Malter
Suzanne Parker
(in memory of Petey Kaletta’s mother)
Ezra Rohold (no date given)

Birthdays
Sy Bassen – March 28
Peg Royle – April 3
Stan Dyen – April 8
Art Kass – April 16
Jean Richak – April 16
Bunny Blattner – April 17
Stuart Farber – April 17
Suzanne Parke – April 21
Barbara Norgren – April 26
Adrienne Miller – April 29
Claire Lang

The LLI Newsletter is a product of the LLI Members Advisory Committee.

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LLI Welcomes New Editor

Greetings from your new editor, Ciro Mazzola.

I am introducing a digital, enhanced version of the newsletter to accompany information that appears in the printed and online version. If you have an email address on file in the office, the digital edition will be sent to you. This version will differ from the official online version featured on the LLI Web site.

Some of the items planned for the digital edition include selections from the Socrates Cafe, the Writers’ Workshop, the Great Books Group, lectures, and various field trips. The digital version will depend on contributing reports from the Lifelong Learning Institute members. If you would like to be involved, please let me know in person or email me at ciromazzola@me.com.